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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) FDA 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD. 20852

REGARDING DOCKETS: 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

Dear FDA:

I am writing you concerning the issue of forced molting for hens. In my opinion, the FDA has to do more than what it at is present doing. Putting Bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and just regulating egg refrigeration temperatures simply does not address the issue of egg contamination.

Instead, the FDA should use the following remedies to deal with this significant public health issue:

The practice of forced molting should be banned because it has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying hen's immune systems. This power lies within the the FDA to implement. The only question is if the FDA is willing to stand up against the financial interests who reap big dollars at the expense of public health.

Infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs is a horrendous problem that does not seem to be getting better. The cruelty involved to the hens is also unexcusable. Please act to serve the public health and to prevent cruelty to billions of hens every year.

Cordially,

Joe Haptas

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C495

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C496

96P-0418/C495

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